

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please substitute the following amended claims for corresponding claims previously presented. A copy of the amended claims showing current revisions is attached.

Cancel claims 16, 17 and 23.

18. (Amended) A pharmaceutical preparation comprising a core consisting of the composition as claimed in claim 21 or 22 and an enteric coating thereon.

19. (Amended) A pharmaceutical preparation comprising a core consisting of the composition as claimed in claim 21 or 22, an intermediate coating and an enteric coating.

C 20. (Amended) A pharmaceutical preparation comprising a core consisting of the composition as claimed in claim 21 or 22, an intermediate coating, an enteric coating and a moisture resistant coating.

21. (Amended) A composition comprising (A) rabeprazole or an alkali metal salt thereof and (B) sodium hydroxide, wherein the composition comprises 1 part by weight of (A) and 0.01 to 2 parts by weight of (B).

22. (Amended) A composition comprising (A) rabeprazole or an alkali metal salt thereof, (B) crospovidone and sodium hydroxide, wherein the composition comprises 1 part by weight of (A), 0.01 to 2 parts by weight of sodium hydroxide and 0.5 to 5 parts by weight of crospovidone.

24. (Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 21 or 22 wherein components (A) and (B) are uniformly mixed with each other.

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25. (Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 21 or 22 wherein (A) is mixed with a portion of (B) to form granules, then a further amount of (B) is added to the granules and mixed, then the mixture is formed into a tablet.

26. (Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 21 or 22 wherein (A) is mixed with a portion of (B) and formed into a core, then a further amount of (B) is coated as a layer onto the core.

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31. (Amended) The pharmaceutical preparation according to any one of claims 27, 28 or 29, wherein the core further comprises an antioxidant.

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32. (Amended) A pharmaceutical preparation comprising a core which comprises the composition of claim 21 or 22 coated with an enteric coating and further with a moisture-resistant coating.

33. (Amended) A pharmaceutical preparation comprising a core which comprises the composition of claim 21 or 22 coated with an intermediate coating, further with an enteric coating and then with a moisture-resistant coating.

[Add the following new claim:]

--34. (new) The composition according to claim 21 or 22 which comprises 1 part by weight of (A) and 0.01 to 0.05 parts by weight of (B).--

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